

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

B. Michelle Chen, et al.

Serial No.: 10/611,589

Confirmation No.: 5241

Filed: June 30, 2003

For: Method and Apparatus for
Annealing Copper Films§
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Group Art Unit: 1742

Examiner: George P. Wyszomierski

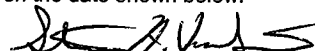
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or electronically transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office via EFS-Web to the attention of Examiner Wyszomierski, on the date shown below.

11/29/06

Date


Steven H. VerSteeg

Dear Sir:

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED SEPTEMBER 11, 2006

In response to the Final Office Action dated September 11, 2006, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on December 11, 2006, please enter this response and reconsider the claims pending in the application for the reasons discussed below. Although Applicants believe that no additional fees are due in connection with this response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge counsel's Deposit Account No. 20-0782/APPM/001717.D2.Y1/KMT, for any fees, including extension of time fees or excess claim fees, required to make this response timely and acceptable to the Office.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper. **Remarks** begin on page 3 of this paper.